

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ingrid A. Beattie, Ph.D., applicant's representative on 23 March 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are as listed in the amendment filed 18 March 2009, except as amended herein below:

In claim 24, at line 4, "levels are" was deleted and --level is-- inserted therefor.

In claim 27, at line 2, "a level of an" was deleted and --the level of-- inserted therefor.

In claim 28, at line 2, "a level of an" was deleted and --the level of-- inserted therefor.

In claim 67, at lines 13-14, "a control reference level indicates" was deleted and --control reference levels indicate-- inserted therefor.

In claim 68, at line 2, "a control reference level indicates" was deleted and --control reference levels indicate-- inserted therefor.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James L. Grun, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (571) 272-0821. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Shibuya, SPE, can be contacted at (571) 272-0806.

The phone number for official facsimile transmitted communications to TC 1600, Group 1640, is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application, or requests to supply missing elements from Office communications, should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/J. L. G./

James L. Grun, Ph.D.

Examiner, Art Unit 1641

March 31, 2009

/Ann Y. Lam/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1641

March 25, 2009